



WELLESLEYNATURAL
RESOURCECOMMISSION

Insights from Outside

February 2020

Introducing *Wellesley Will*



What's *Wellesley Will*? It's our community's plan for handling and preparing for all the impacts of a changing climate and economy. The Final Summary of Findings for the Wellesley Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program (MVP) is now complete. Read the report [here](#)

What does our sustainable future look like?

1. Resilience to intense storms, flooding, drought and heat.
2. Better and more equitable access to services.
3. More opportunities for civil engagement from residents.

Keep your eye on this section for updates about *Wellesley Will* and opportunities to help shape the future of your community! You can learn more details about the planning process [here](#).

We thank all of the participants who gave

NRC Rain Barrel Program



Wellesley is among the many Massachusetts communities offering Rain Barrels to residents as part of an ongoing conservation effort. Rain Barrels help the town to manage water resources, help residents save money on water bills, and raise water consciousness. To order your own rain barrel click [Here](#)

Pick Up Instructions

- Date: 4/20/2020 - 5/01/2020
- Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Location for Pick Up: Wellesley Town Hall, 525 Washington St, Wellesley MA 02482

Please make arrangements to pick up your barrel or have someone pick up your barrel for you during the distribution time.

Deadline for Ordering

- Date: 4/13/2020
- Time: Midnight

NRC Environmental Education

their time and insight to this process, and to the team at **Kim Lundgren Associates (KLA)** for their leadership.

Take a Walk on the Wild Side

Love the Planet



WELLESLEY WILL
Make a Difference Every Day

**SHOW
YOUR LOVE
FOR THE PLANET**

facebook.com/WellesleyWill
#WellesleyWill

Got 5 Minutes?
Turn the Key
Don't leave your car idle! Not only is it illegal in Wellesley, but it also helps protect our trees, water and air.

Got an Hour?
Grab a Rain Barrel
Rain barrels from The Great American Rain Barrel don't just save money on your bills, they prevent runoff from affecting our lakes and rivers.

Got a Day?
Visit the Library of Things
Take advantage of interesting or useful items without buying extra stuff. The Wellesley Library of Things has everything from 3D pens to accordions!

An Extra Day to Make a Difference...

Happy Leap Year! We get an extra day in 2020 this February 29th. Bonus: It's a Saturday! That means you have an additional 24 hours to make a difference in our community and for our planet. Here are some ideas from *Wellesley Will* for maximizing your impact:

- Sign up for [Shave the Peak alerts](#) to reduce energy use -- *and* your energy bills.
- Finally kick [junk mail](#) -- and wasted paper -- to the curb.
- Reduce your food waste. Buy a counter-top compost bin, compostable bags and a sealable storage bucket, and bring your food scraps to the RDF.
- Learn more about ["Complete Streets"](#) and what that would look like for Wellesley neighborhoods.

With steps like these, Wellesley can take a giant leap towards achieving our sustainability goals.



NRC Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator Lisa Moore has been out in the community, visiting Wellesley Waterstone Assisted Living Facility and the Wellesley Friendship Circle to present a program about the nightlife of our local nocturnal wildlife! Participants learned about the variety of animals that creep, slither, walk, and fly through our town after hours. They also had an opportunity to see and touch a variety of artifacts from animals native to Massachusetts, such as a coyote skull and taxidermy coyote, fox skull, owl feathers, snake skin shed, and preserved bat.

Lisa also brought three classes of first-grade students from Sprague elementary school on a nature walk around the school grounds to look for signs of winter plant and animal adaptations. The students witnessed fox and rabbit scat, evidence of deer browsing, plant adaptations such as buds on trees, and animal tracks.

Contact [Lisa](#) if you are interested in bringing Environmental Education presentations to your school or group. And be sure to check out the NRC's [Environmental Education Supplemental Course Offering brochure](#) to see what types of lessons are available for your group or classroom.

Making Progress: MOPO Shore Erosion Project

A tree for you,

a tree for the community



The Wellesley NRC is offering residents free mature shade trees that will be planted on your property. Not only will a tree beautify your yard, as a critical part of the the Town's infrastructure, trees:

- clean our air and water and provide oxygen
- act as wind breaks and sound barriers
- decrease heating and cooling costs
- provide habitat and food for wildlife
- mitigate climate change
- manage stormwater runoff
- increase property values

Don't wait! Sign up for your free tree today. For more information [click here](#) or [email the NRC](#).



The mild winter has provided an opportunity for the DPW to tackle some shore erosion abatement projects at Morses Pond. Several sites have been repaired, like the newly installed steps, pictured above. They'll provide safe access to the pond with less disturbance to the local habitat. Picture below is the new launch-way for the weed harvester. Thank you, DPW, for carrying out this important work! [Click here](#) for a look at other planned erosion abatement projects, outlined in the Morses Pond Erosion Maintenance Permitting Designs.

It's Back! Wellesley City Nature Challenge 2020



April 2020 is the 5th anniversary of the City Nature Challenge and the 50th anniversary of Earth Day! Join us as we celebrate the nature in and around Wellesley by documenting all the species we can find! [Learn more about the City Nature Challenge](#). Contact the [NRC](#) to learn about how you can participate in this global citizen science event.



Volunteer Opportunities

Zero Waste Wellesley's Item of the Month: Black Plastic



Zero Waste Wellesley is a new town initiative that focuses on removing one plastic waste product from the town's waste stream each month. February's item of the month is **black plastic food containers**. These containers are non-recyclable and are polluting our landfills. One way to reduce the use of these plastic containers is to ask your favorite restaurants to switch to a greener alternative such as cardboard or foil. Focusing on one specific product each month makes a greater impact. Please remember to make an effort to **Reduce** waste by **Reusing** and **Recycling** materials, and **Refusing** to take items that can't be recycled, like black plastic food containers. Thank you!



Looking for an opportunity to give back to the community? April is **Earth Month** and one way to celebrate is to volunteer for the **Charles River cleanup**. Participants will spend a few hours cleaning the section of Charles River that passes through Wellesley.

To join the Earth Month event on April 25th, or for help coordinating your own volunteer project, email the **NRC**.

MEETING CALENDAR

Agendas **are posted** 48 hours prior to meeting time.

Upcoming NRC Meetings:

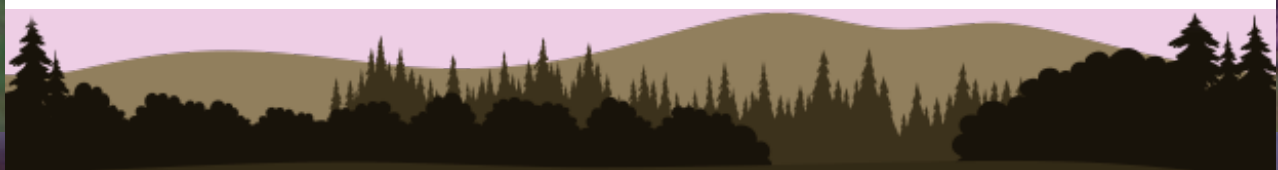
- Thursday February 27th, 7:00PM, Juliani Room, Wellesley Town Hall
- Thursday March 19th, 7:00PM, Room 008, Warren Building
- Thursday March 30th, 6:00PM, Wellesley Middle School, Room TBD

Upcoming Wetlands Protection Committee Meetings:

- Thursday February 20th, 7:00PM Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station
- Thursday March 12th, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station TBD

Upcoming Trails Committee Meetings

- Thursday February 27th 7:00 PM, Wellesley Town Hall



Connect with us



Town of Wellesley Natural Resources Commission
Phone: 781-431-1019 x 2294
Email: nrc@wellesleyma.gov
Website: www.wellesleyma.gov/nrc

